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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Livestock Exhibitors at ND State Fair  
**FROM:** Beth Carlson, DVM *BC*  
Deputy State Veterinarian  
**DATE:** July 5, 2022  
**RE:** Animal Health Requirements at the State Fair

Once again, the State Veterinarian's office will be providing livestock inspection services at the North Dakota State Fair later this month. All animals must be inspected prior to unloading; please see memo regarding inspection times.

In an effort to minimize the number of animals which are asked to leave the fair, this memo is being distributed. Please share this information with individuals in your area that may be planning to exhibit livestock at the State Fair.

The State Fair is a livestock exhibition which showcases superior animals. Animals which are not in ideal condition do not represent agriculture at its finest and diminish the public's perception of agriculture. Additionally, it is important to protect all livestock in attendance by minimizing the risk of exposure to contagious disease. As such, animals that appear to be affected by a contagious disease or that are exhibiting any condition affecting their health or comfort, in the professional opinion of the inspecting veterinarian, will not be permitted on the fairgrounds. Decisions by the inspecting veterinarian on-site are final.

- Any animal with evidence of contagious, infectious disease will be dismissed from the fairgrounds immediately. This includes animals showing signs of localized disorders such as club lamb fungus, ringworm, or other dermatophytosis (infectious skin condition), and warts, as well as systemic diseases of the respiratory or gastrointestinal system, such as pneumonia or diarrhea.
- Any animal with an obvious physical defect or deformity, including, but not limited to prolapses, open sores, eye lesions, lameness or other physical injury, shall be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
- **Animals affected by skin disorders prior to the fair should seek veterinary care ASAP to ensure the best prognosis for attendance.**
- Animals who are recovering from localized skin disorders will be permitted if:
  - There are no open sores
  - Hair is beginning to grow back (as determined by the on-site inspecting veterinarian).

Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) must be presented for out of state animals; CVIs are not required for any North Dakota animals. Additionally, all cattle and swine for exhibition which travel across state lines must be officially identified, including steers and barrows.

Livestock exhibitors at the state fair should present copies of all veterinary prescriptions for medications that have been given to market animals to the species superintendent, and any livestock medications brought to the fair must bear a prescription label.

All sheep and goats, other than wethers <18 months of age, must be identified with a scrapie tag or breed registration tattoo accompanied by registration papers in the current owner's name. If not properly identified, they will not be allowed to unload at the fair.

**Due to concerns about Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), poultry will NOT be exhibited at the state fair this year.**

This information also appears in the State Fair catalog, but hopefully distributing it through multiple channels will allow more exhibitors to be made aware of it and prevent disappointment and inconvenience, should their animal be affected by one of the conditions above. Thank you for your assistance in getting the word out!